

The chapter on "Modesty and Romance" contains deep truths frankly stated. The advice on "separate rooms" is, in our opinion, a blot on the chapter, and the common use of dressing and bath rooms surely obviates the painful view of the "goddess" screwing "her hair up into a tight and unbecoming knot."

Married Love will be read with considerable interest, and will, we doubt not, prove profitable to many, but it should not be regarded as an infallible rule on all points. It, however, demands unstinted praise for its obvious effort to rule out the prostitute, who was once counted undeniably necessary, and lead the way to the equal moral standard so earnestly demanded by the intelligent women of to-day.

H. MACKENNA, M.B.

Lay, WILFRED. *Man's Unconscious Conflict.* New York: Dodd, Mead and Co.; 1917; price \$1.50; pp. 318.

THIS book is an excellent example of the translation of abstract scientific theories into such a form as to be intelligible to those unversed in the particular theories. The writer professes to interpret the subject of psycho-analysis with special reference to the teachings of Freud, and he undoubtedly succeeds in his aim. His discussion comprises the concept of the unconscious illustrated by the metaphor of the Titan within us ever seeking expression; the repressive forces of society constantly operating to repress that expression and the results of that repression; the constant conflict between the unconscious and the conscious forces; the ways in which the unconscious seeks and obtains expression in dreams, and in the apparent trivialities of everyday life, such as slips of the tongue and pen; the evolution of psychical life and the relation of arrested psychical growth to the complete adult development; directed and undirected thinking and the reason why the former is so difficult; the part played by the doctrine of the unconscious in modern therapy, and finally some educational applications.

All those who are interested in these psychological developments and wish to have a general survey of the position at the present time will find the book an admirable introduction. It is, however, necessary to utter a word of warning. The theories connected with the interpretation of the unconscious are really but hypotheses, which hypotheses must be distinguished from the facts they interpret. The very clearness of this book is deceptive and a reader might legitimately conclude from his perusal of the book that more was known than really is the case; there is always a danger in the use of metaphor and this is particularly noticeable in this work. The difficulties with which the whole subject is surrounded are disguised and in an exposition made "plain to the meanest intellect" there is a possibility that the reader may overlook the fact that "much yet remains to be said." A concluding chapter giving some of the problems still awaiting solution would have had a salutary effect.

MAY SMITH.

Downing, E. R. *The Third and Fourth Generation.* Chicago: The University of Chicago Press; 1918; price \$1; pp. xi. + 164.

It is a significant fact, which should bring mild satisfaction to the shades of Huxley and Galton, that this volume is issued as one of a series of "Publications in Religious Education." It is intended "primarily for young people," and it is calculated to provide them, and indeed older readers, with a clear and stimulating introduction to the study of reproduction, heredity, and eugenics. That it should be somewhat dogmatic in tone is an inevitable defect of its qualities, for a discussion of the validity of the evidence on which many of the statements rest could not have been summarised clearly or profitably in a work of this size. Yet dogmatism has this danger: that when a critical reader discovers that part of what he has been taught as the indisputable gospel of science is

merely a matter of probability or surmise, the discovery may cause a reaction which will lead him to discredit the whole teaching. We could, therefore, have wished that more stress should have been laid on the general truth of heredity and less on the universal applicability of Mendel's laws, since eugenics stands or falls with the former and not with the latter.

In conclusion a word of praise must be accorded to the get-up of the volume. Print, paper, illustrations, and binding are all admirable.
E. S.

REPORTS.

INTERIM REPORT ON VENEREAL DISEASES AND COPY OF AN ACT FOR THE PREVENTION OF VENEREAL DISEASES. By the Hon. Frank Egerton Hodgins, Justice of Appeal, Commissioner. Toronto; 1918; pp. 21.

By this Act notification is made compulsory, and persons in gaol or any other place of detention may be detained and isolated for treatment if necessary; hospitals must make effective provision for examination and treatment of patients; quack advertisements and the sale of quack remedies are made penal offences, and so also is the conveying of infection to another.

ANNUAL REPORT OF HAMPSTEAD COUNCIL OF SOCIAL WELFARE; 1917; pp 52.

If there were a network of both urban and rural councils throughout the country organised on the practical and comprehensive lines of the Hampstead Council, and the results of their work could be collated and systematised it would be very valuable in reconstruction. As it is, much good work is being done and much experience gathered which serves only local instead of national purposes. The Hampstead Council includes in its activities an Adolescent Care Committee, a Board of Social Study, a Legal and Business Advice Committee, a Tuberculosis Committee, in addition to Infant Health and Child Welfare, Rescue, Sickness, Assistance Committees, etc.
N. A.